

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed September 13, 2004, Claims 4, 5, 8, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Menendez et al. (U.S. Patent 5,555,369), Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, and 11 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Menendez et al. in view of Tow et al. (U.S. Patent 5,860,070), Claim 3 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Menendez et al. in view of Tow et al. as applied to claim 1 and further in view of May (U.S. Patent 6,421,653), and Claim 6 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Menendez et al. as applied to claim 4 in view of May.

The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

In accordance with the foregoing Claims 2, 4, 8, 10, and 12 have been amended.

Claims 1-12 are pending and under consideration. No new matter is presented.

Menendez et al. discuss "...various graphical slot editors that may be employed...the browser of FIG. 12 allows graphical editing of an picture, the browser of FIG. 13 allows graphical editing of a view boundary, and the browser of FIG. 14 allows graphical editing of various view flags...the user selects the "check mark" icon 223 located in the bottom left of the browser to apply the editing changes...the changes can be saved from a menu or by switching to another slot in the browser" (Col. 10, lines 20-29). Further, Menendez et al. discuss "...view buttons which define various graphical interface elements such as radio buttons, slide bars, text input lines..." (Col. 14, lines 50-52).

Tow et al. discuss that when "...multi-column keys are used, key uniqueness has typically been enforced by maintaining a data structure apart from the data table, e.g., an index, in which is stored each combination of column values that has been inserted into the corresponding table as of a given point in time" and before "...a program is permitted to insert a row or update the key to an existing row, the index is checked to ensure that the proposed key value does not conflict with an existing key value" (Col. 2, lines 63-67 and Col. 3, lines 1-3).

May et al. discuss "...an improved electronic trading system for trading derivative financial instruments" (Col. 5, lines 29-31). May et al. in reference to FIG. 7 and FIG. 8 also discuss that "...the credit preference interface 170 includes a display window 172 that displays various information including an alphabetical listing of all other legal entities...user can modify the displayed credit groups by selecting the Modify Credit Groups button 178 which launches the modify credit group interface 180...Unassigned instruments can be added and member

instruments can be removed...credit groups 182 can be added and deleted via buttons 182, 185, respectively” (Col. 28, lines 32-59).

Menendez et al. in view of Tow et al. discuss graphical editing of an picture and checking an index to ensure that a proposed key value does not conflict with an existing key value.

Menendez et al. in view of Tow et al. as applied to claim 1 and further in view of May et al. discuss graphical editing of an picture and checking an index to ensure that a proposed key value does not conflict with an existing key value and adding and deleting groups.

Menendez et al. as applied to claim 4 in view of May et al. discuss “a development environment and method in which a first computer system is used to develop and package an application (or other material) for use in a second computer system – preferably a pen-based computer – having a graphical user interface...” (See Col. 1, lines 49-54) including a user being able to “modify the displayed” information. (See Col. 28, lines 32-59).

The present invention, on the other hand, discusses a program development device and method developing an application program wherein the selected interface is permitted to be embedded into the application program or not. (See for example Claim 1). Further, the amendments to Claims 4, 8, 10, and 12 include at least the patentably distinguishing feature of “...a group definition module defining a group having a plurality of users”.

None of the cited references Menendez et al., Tow et al., and May et al. teach or describe a program development device, method, recording medium, and data communication signal with a group definition module defining a group having a plurality of users, as recited in amended independent claims 4, 8, 10, and 12.

Further, checking a “key value” in Tow et al. does not render obvious Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, and 11, wherein the interface selection module sets whether the interface is permitted to be embedded in an application program.

The Examiner sets forth on page 5 of the Action that “Menendez...does not explicitly disclose determining permission to embed the interface in to the application program”. Moreover, Tow et al. also fail to teach or describe this patentably distinguishing feature. Therefore, we disagree with the Examiner’s assertion on page 5 of the Action that “Tow discloses insertion of data into a table wherein permission is required to perform the update (column 2, line 60 to column 3, line 3)”.

As all independent claims 1, 4, 7-12 are patentable over any combination of Menendez et al., Tow et al., and May et al., dependent claims 2, 3, 5, and 6 are also placed in condition for allowance as they depend from allowable independent claims.

Concluding Remarks –

Menendez et al., Tow et al., and May et al. fail to teach or disclose at least the patentably distinguishing feature of a group definition module defining a group having a plurality of users either alone or in any combination.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested. Further, allowance of all pending Claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

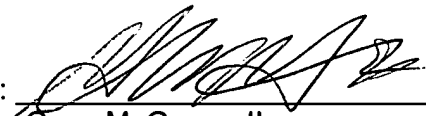
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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